

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

October 19, 2006

EFFINGHAM COUNTY WOMAN SENTENCED IN METHAMPHETAMINE CASE

Randy G. Massey, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on October 10, 2006, **CHASSIDI D. PARKS**, age 30, of Effingham, in Effingham County, Illinois, was sentenced in United States District Court, Benton, Illinois, following her guilty plea to Conspiracy to Manufacture, Distribute and Possess with Intent to Distribute Methamphetamine; Distribution of Methamphetamine (two counts); and Possession of Methamphetamine Manufacturing Materials. She was sentenced to 120 months' imprisonment on each count, the sentences to run concurrently, 5 years' supervised release, a \$500 fine and a \$400 special assessment. There is no parole in the federal system.

According to court documents, the conspiracy operated in and around Effingham County, Illinois, from November 2004 through August 25, 2005. Ms. Parks is the last of three defendants to be sentenced in the case.

This case is part of an ongoing investigation into methamphetamine manufacturing activities in Effingham County, Illinois, being conducted by the Effingham County Sheriff's Department and the Effingham City Police Department in cooperation with the Effingham County State's Attorney Edward Deters. The ongoing investigation is conducted as part of the Effingham County Project Safe Neighborhoods DRAGUN Team Initiative, a cooperative effort of local, state and federal law enforcement, and state and federal prosecuting authorities, aimed at ridding communities of drugs and guns.

The case was handled by Assistant United States Attorney Kit Morrissey.